

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (currently amended): A system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices comprising:

a first Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop switch,
a second Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop switch,
each of the first and second Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop switches including a plurality of ports, connectivity apparatus and route determination logic, and
the route determination logic creating routes based on ~~the~~ receipt of certain arbitrated Loop primitives and a trunk grouping table,

wherein the first and second Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop switches are interconnected by multiple duplicate interswitch links and transfer frames through at least two of the plurality of ports on each switch.

Claim 2 (original): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 1 wherein a first group of devices make connection through a first interswitch link and a second group of devices make connection through a second, different interswitch link.

Claim 3 (canceled)

Claim 4 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim [[3]]1 wherein the table is in the router.

Claim 5 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim [[3]]1 wherein the trunk grouping table automatically learns the grouping.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 5 wherein the table learns the grouping from ~~the~~ a previous OPEN Fibre Channel primitive (OPN) from a Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop device initiator.

Claim 7 (previously presented): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 6 wherein the device initiator is a Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) initiator.

Claim 8 (original): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 7 wherein the SCSI initiator is a server.

Claim 9 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim [[3]]1 wherein the trunk grouping table contains information on Small Computer System Interface (SCSI) initiators.

Claim 10 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim [[3]]1 wherein the trunk grouping table identifies a primary port to route frames for an initiator Arbitrated Loop device.

Claim 11 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim [[3]]1 wherein the trunk grouping table identifies a backup or duplicate port to route frames for an initiator Arbitrated Loop device.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim [[3]]1 wherein the trunk grouping table identifies a duplicate port for a device.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim [[3]]1 wherein the trunk grouping table identifies an initiator Arbitrated Loop Physical Address (ALPA).

Claim 14 (original): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim 12 wherein the duplicate port is used as a failover port.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The system for interconnecting Fibre Channel Arbitrated Loop devices of claim ~~[[3]]~~9 wherein the information about the SCSI initiators includes one or more of the following: Arbitrated Loop Physical Address (ALPA) address for the initiator, assigned primary trunk group to route the frames, duplicate port to route the frames in case of an error with the primary trunk group.